



Welcome to Community Works.
You can make a difference here.

14 Beacon Street, Suite 719 Boston, MA 02108
617-423-9555



Connections - Summer 2017

In This Issue

Member Feature

Save the date

Member Announcements

Summer Happenings

Be sure to find us
on our social media pages!



Quick Links

Dear Friends,

As the spring weather gives way to the sparkling rays of summer, CW plans to take time to check the vibrant pulse of our member groups. One of the strengths of Community Works is our readiness to take an extended outlook, to be enduring investors in projects that take time to have impact and to take chances on ideas that may not work out. I want to hear some of these ideas, firsthand, and so will be stopping in over the summer looking for lemonade and ways that CW can be supportive of your efforts. While we wait for true summer, check out the feature articles of 2 our member groups who participated in rallies and demonstrations locally and nationally over this past year:



FEATURE ARTICLE: ALTERNATIVES FOR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT (ACE)

By John Walkey, staff member of ACE

Making Estate Plans?

Please consider a **social and economic justice legacy** gift to Community Works.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Donate Now

Secure donations through
Network for Good

Member Feature

In this edition we feature Pete Smith, board representative from Communities Without Borders in an article written by Eva Kubik from Concerned United Birthparents.

Ancient wisdom tells us: 'A picture is worth a thousand words.' Inspired by this quote, Pete Smith developed a plan to publicize Community Work's October 'Social Justice Month,' celebrating CW's 35th anniversary.

He decided to put this idea into action by taking photos of other board members holding signs with brief statements about their organization's

Through our 25 year history, Alternatives for Community & Environment (ACE) has built our reputation on successfully bringing together the concerns of people and the environment in the form of campaigns and projects that improve the health of both the physical environment and the folks who live in it. We have done this through policy changes, through hands-on projects and coalition building across diverse stakeholders. As we enter a new and critical phase of the environmental movement - one where it has become obvious that drastic action is necessary to prevent, or perhaps at best mitigate, the local impacts of human influence on global climate - the ability to unite people of different backgrounds, achieve a shared understanding of our problems and their solutions, and to actually move forward an agenda for equitable and sustainable change is needed like never before in human history.



In April 2017 ACE joined with Boston area allies to fill four buses journeying to Washington DC to participate in the People's Climate movement. This trip retraces our journey 4 years ago where we filled eight buses with community members and activists to travel to New York City to participate in the People's Climate March. These landmark events represent the transition of the national environmental movement from one focused on natural resources such as water, air and energy sources to one that puts those elements in the context of our society and its internal issues. In particular there is a growing recognition that the solutions to our environmental concerns are integrally intertwined with the solutions to our social ills, such as poverty, structural racism and

mission and its relevance to social justice. Pete said, "I wanted every group of CW to have a picture of their Board Member saying this is 'what social justice means to me.' We are diverse non-profit groups, but united by our work for social justice."

Pete went on to explain that his group, Communities Without Borders, social justice purpose is that a child in Zambia gets to go to school. Communities Without Borders provides tuition, books and uniforms for orphans of the AIDs epidemic who otherwise could not afford schooling. So far, Pete's organization has enabled over 1,500 children this opportunity.

The goal of Social Justice Month is to increase awareness of the many dimensions of our groups and the real value they provide to make a better world for all of us. Now you may better know the man behind the camera at our February retreat and March Board Meeting. Pete hopes to get everyone to participate and spread the word about Community Works 'with a picture,' please smile!

To learn more about Communities Without Borders, go to www.communitieswithoutborders.org "Making hope happen, one child at a time."

We welcome your 'what social justice means to me' pictures! Please contact us if you are interested.

oppression. This intersectionality is best exhibited in the concept of "frontline communities" which was physically manifest in these marches by having the front of the column of hundreds of thousands of people be led by indigenous groups, people of color, low income people and other marginalized groups. These are the same groups that are the first and most drastically affected by climate change, by contamination and by inequitable management of shared natural resources.



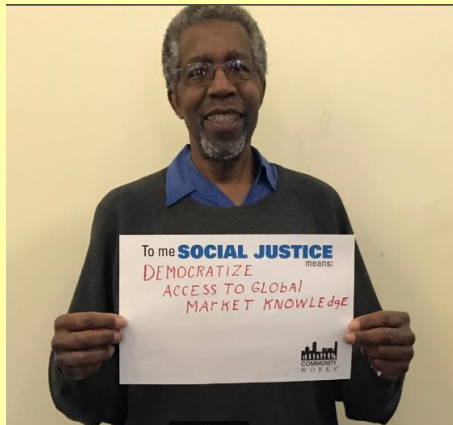
On an unseasonably sweltering DC street corner in April we readied our contingent of activists young and old near the head of the line for the start of the march and watched the people walk by. The organizers had a challenging time making sure that people who were just joining up understood that the front of the line was reserved for these representatives of "frontline communities." Indeed this is an apt illustration of the challenging coalition building work we do with allies and members, where we can easily find common ground with allies on the need for open space or better transit, but must work harder to get across some of the other perspectives that our communities have that might not be readily apparent to those that would join with us in common cause.

A trio of older, white environmentalists holding signs that called for "Saving Chesapeake Bay" and "Save Our Crabs" walked by and looked at the young people holding their "It Takes Roots To Weather the Storm" banner, dancing and chanting to the beat of the five-gallon bucket-drummers. "This is the place to be," said one of the three to the others as they looked for a space in the line. The challenge for our movement is to reach out to those environmentalists who are attracted to the energy of our actions but may be a bit more perplexed about what "Black Lives Matter" has to do with saving Chesapeake Bay, polar bears or solar panels. The future of our movement hinges on evolving the environmental movement into an environmental justice movement, which sees social change just as necessary as the changes in our energy production and natural resource use. At ACE we hope to help define those solutions for Boston's future in our next 25 years.

What Social Justice Means to our Members



Eva and Linda from Concerned United Birthparents



Curtis from Cooperative Artists Institute

To learn more about ACE, visit <https://www.ace-ej.org/>

KEEPING UP THE MOMENTUM

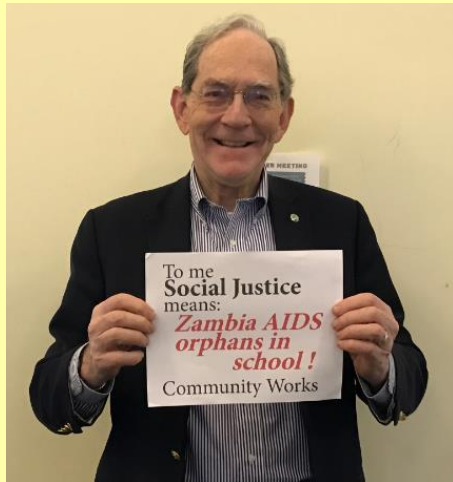
After the women's march

By Judy Norsigian, Co-Founder and Board Representative for Our Bodies Ourselves

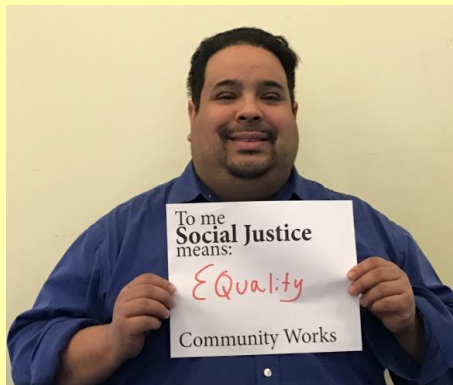
On January 21, nearly 200,000 women and their allies (representing more than 200 organizations) gathered on Boston Common and then marched down Commonwealth Ave in a historic display of collective action. Millions of others in the U.S. and around the world organized similar marches to demonstrate their commitment to fighting racism, gender- and disability-based discrimination, xenophobia, economic disparities, and other social injustices. Out of these marches have grown many groups and efforts that are now part of a new "resistance" effort borne out of frustration with a meeting at the Boston SEIU offices to hear Danielle Allen (Director of the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics and James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard University), Marshall Ganz (Senior Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government), Senator Mike Barrett (Lexington), Representative Marjorie Decker (Cambridge), and others speak about the many ways we can advance a progressive agenda ([click here](#) to view the briefing packet).



(From the March Forward Massachusetts website)



Pete from Communities Without Borders



Ben from the Welcome Project

This first MFM training at the SEIU offices focused on how we can more effectively engage with the Massachusetts legislature. Danielle Allen emphasized the advantages of creating a political discourse based upon shared values, and Marshall Ganz described the core elements and benefits of the public narrative approach that incorporates storytelling into our advocacy work. Many of us are seeking not only ways to work at the state level but also want to support initiatives that fight voter disenfranchisement in other states, where the problem is already quite serious. Finding common ground even with those with whom we have often disagreed will be important in the coming months.

Whether we want to focus on climate change, immigrant rights, women's reproductive rights, the criminal justice system, disability rights, or other social justice causes, we have to work together and "be the change we want to see." There is much to do, but the new energy out there is reason for optimism.

Learn more about MFM at <http://www.marchforwardmassaction.org> and at <https://www.facebook.com/MarchForwardMA/>

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Boston Self Help Center, Cheuchi Challenge Cup Champs!!



Eva from YWCA Cambridge

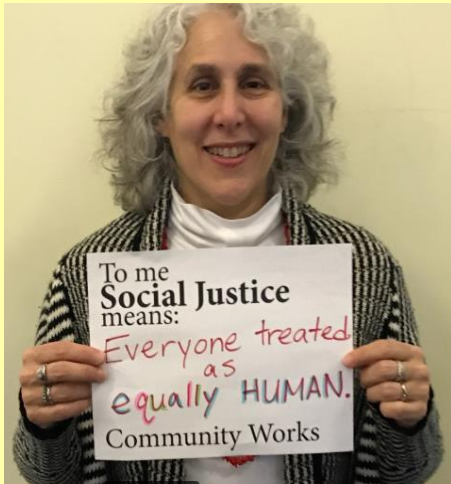


Marci from WATCH CDC



Congratulations to Boston Self Help's team, Boston Brakers for winning the 2017 Cheuchi Challenge Cup !!

The Cheuchi Challenge Cup is held annually at the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children, formally known as the Massachusetts Hospital School, and is a tradition in power wheelchair soccer well known to all New England fans. This year, the event hosted 4 teams on April 15 with each team playing three games. Teams attending were from New Hampshire, Vermont, Boston, and Canton Massachusetts. The Boston Brakers with a tournament record of two wins and one tie took home the winning trophy and rights. They now get ready for the nationals in Indianapolis on June 16 through June 18. napolis tournament will be webcast. They will have a link posted on their www.BostonBrakers.com and their Facebook page - Boston Brakers.



Toni from Jane Doe Inc.



Latoya from Greater Four Corners Action Coalition

Announcements

WELCOME to three new Executive Directors in the CW Community!



The Boston Brakers are a program of the Boston Self Help Center. The team practices regularly the first three Saturdays of the month from noon to 2 PM at the Tobin Community Center, 1481 Tremont St., Roxbury, MA. Feel free to come by and watch and let Jim Wice, Team Representative, jjwice@gmail.com know if you would like more information or how you can support the team.

Hawthorne Youth and Community Center

Sue Heilman, Interim Executive Director at ACE

Amy F. Rosenthal at Health Care for All

Jodi Sugerman-Brozan at Mass COSH

MASSACHUSETTS NONPROFIT NETWORK AWARDS

Congratulations to our members Jane Doe Inc. and WATCH CDC for their nominations as Finalists for the 2017 Massachusetts Non-Profit Network Excellence Award in Advocacy !!

The award is a part of the annual Nonprofit Awareness Day, a state holiday signed into law by Governor Deval Patrick in 2007. On Monday, June 5, join House Speaker Robert DeLeo, Senate President Stan Rosenberg, and Jay Ash, Secretary of Housing and Economic Development along with hundreds of nonprofit leaders at the State House to celebrate the essential work of the nonprofit sector.

Click [here](#) for more information.

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

241 sq feet in small non-profit owned building at 1534 Tremont Street opposite the Mission Church. Accessible building, with shared conference room and kitchen



Youth learning how to plant from seed and how food is a cultural expression and has economic consequences especially if you live in a food desert. Led by Danielle Sommer, program coordinator for the past 3 years and a proficient gardener and excellent cook.

Hawthorne Youth and Community Center had a very busy fall and winter. We had three youths from area high schools who were involved in our Grow it, Cook it, Share It program. These youth learned about soil and garden preparation as well as providing a community meal monthly using plant-based foods and exploring a variety of flavors and textures.

We were fortunate to receive grantor support for the continuation of this program through the summer. The Boston Youth Fund and MLK Summer Scholars will offer 13 stipended positions to youth 15-18 years old to learn practical and leadership training skills. We are very excited to have a large group of students to garden, cook and serve our community.

We also serve as a meeting space for Boston Food Forest and its' supporting group, Resilience Hub, to host workshops through this year. Participants came from many states and locally. These groups will continue to support our youth through the summer as they learn how to build a sustainable environment.

areas. On bus line and between Brigham Circle and Roxbury Crossing T stations.

\$1200 mo negotiable.
Contact Betty Commerford
617-694-9096 for information.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday July 16 from 3-6pm

Summer Grill Out! At Arsenal Park (AARW)

485 Arsenal St, Watertown MA 02472

Come celebrate the summer with the Asian American Resource Workshop community! Enjoy great food, outdoor games, and a grilling competition between community groups. Everyone is welcome! Go to website for tickets and check out more details on the Facebook page here! Note: We are still looking for teams to compete in Grill Off! Please message uma@aarw.org directly if you are interested.

Friday, July 21 - 22 / 12pm-5pm

5th Annual Four Corners Day Celebration (GFCAC)

Join the Greater Four Corners Action Coalition for live bands,

Special shout out to CW for its support and guidance as we continue to grow.'

Jane Doe Inc.

Make sure to check out Jane Doe's regular event notices from members and allies, which can be found at [here](#).

Poor People's United Fund

HUNGER

With the USA as the wealthiest country and Massachusetts as one of the 5 wealthiest states, it makes no sense that nearly 10% of Massachusetts families are experiencing food insecurity. CW member, Poor People's United Fund (PPUF), tries to do its part to alleviate hunger through its Breaking Bread program which provides food assistance to 150 local families. PPUF asks that you support your local food pantry so families in your neighborhood can get the help they need.

[Search for a pantry in your town.](#)

WATCH CDC Inc.

dance, and entertainment. Free for all ages.

Friday, August 11th-13th

**10th Annual Boston GreenFest
(Community Works)**

City Hall Plaza

Visit the Community Works table at the 10th Annual Boston GreenFest.

'Celebrating our 10th anniversary, Boston GreenFest is excited to bring you this wonderful free three-day festival Boston City Hall Plaza is transformed into a fun interactive community classroom. This year Boston GreenFest will be a ZERO WASTE event thanks to the efforts of our friends at City Compost! Come join us for three live stages of dance and music along with a showcase of innovation, fashion, vendors, forums, films, cars, fitness classes, art, EcoKids Center, robots, Wine & Beer Garden, Casa Latina, and more!'

For more information, visit <http://www.bostongreenfest.org/>

Wednesday, September 6, 12am

Voter Registration Deadline (ACE)

Tuesday, September 19

6am to 8pm



On Saturday, March 25th, AirCraft Aerial Arts presented a showcase, premiering finished works and works-in-progress by aerial instructors including Marci Diamond from WATCH! All proceeds from the event were donated to Community Works and to the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

SUMMER HAPPENINGS

Friday, June 2 / 9:30am

**The Haitian Roundtable on Domestic Violence presents: 18th Annual Clergy Breakfast
(AFAB - Association of Haitian Women)**

Mattapan Branch of Boston Public Library, 1350 Blue Hill Ave., Mattapan MA

<http://afab-kafanm.org/>

Please RSVP: 617-287-0096 or cbonhometre@afab-kafanm.org

Saturday, June 3 / 4pm-7pm

Preliminary City Elections (ACE)

Stay tuned for Boston Tenant Coalition's "Karaoke for a Cause" 2017 event. We'll have a dinner, dancing, a silent auction with great items like gift certificates to restaurants and, of course, karaoke.

<https://www.bostontenant.org/>

Community Works Workplace Giving

Did you know you can support Community Works member organizations by donating through your workplace's annual charitable campaign? Community Works currently has over 30 partner businesses where employees may contribute to Community Works through an employee giving program. These include the Massachusetts State Employees Campaign (COMECC) and the City of Boston Campaign (COBECC).

These giving programs allow you to make recurring or one-time donations through payroll deduction. This method of donating is beneficial for both you and for the group(s) you support. It allows you to effortlessly space out your

14th Annual Haley House Block Party (Haley House)

Haley House, 23 Dartmouth Street, Boston MA

This fun neighborhood event features fabulous silent auction items & raffle prizes, music, games & activities for kids, a wine tasting, and delicious food. All proceeds benefit programming for our community and ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sunday, June 4 / 2pm-4pm

50th Anniversary Open House (YWCA Cambridge)

78 Ferry Hill Road, Marshfield MA

www.ywcacam.org

Join us for a celebration of 50 years of Summer Day Camp at the Marshfield Branch, YWCA Cambridge! This event is free and open to the public.

Monday, June 5 / 7pm-9pm

Nonprofit Networking Night (Haley House)

Dudley Dough, 2302 Washington St, Roxbury, MA

[Click here](#) for more details.

Join Haley House and Dudley Dough for their first ever Nonprofit Networking Night at Dudley Dough! Whether you are a nonprofit professional, a volunteer, or just an interested community member, come join, connect, and share!

Friday June 9 - June 10

The Good Adoptee play and Q&A (CUB - Concerned United Birthparents)

Please come and join us for a wonderful play The Good Adoptee by Suzanne Bachner. This event will help the ACCESS to OBC Committee in our efforts to change the law and allow ALL adult adoptees access to their own original birth certificates. To find out more about this, go to

Massachusetts ACCESS OBC Bill: <https://www.obcforma.org/obc-bill>

contribution over the course of the year. For many people this is more manageable than making a one-time gift by check or credit card. You can donate \$1.00 a paycheck, and at the end of the year you would have donated \$52! This type of donation provides Community Works member groups with the consistent, sustainable support they need.

For a complete list of employers who currently honor payroll deduction donations to Community Works and to read what some employer partners have to say about our organization, please visit the [Giving at Work](#) page of our website. If you do not see your employer on the list, please call us at 617-423-9555 or email koko@communityworks.com for more information on how you can help Community Works become involved in your workplace's employee giving program.

The play will run:

Friday June 9th, 7pm at Plymouth Church (87 Edgell Rd., Framingham, MA)

Saturday June 10th, 2pm at Edwards Church (Main St., Northampton, MA)

Tickets are \$25, \$20 for seniors & students & can be obtained at: www.eventbrite.com/

Friday, June 9, 2017 / 5pm to 9pm

Save the Date! Right to the City Member Celebration & Assembly (ACE)

www.ace-ej.org

Saturday, June 10 / 6pm-8pm

Conversation with Jose Antonio Vargas (ACLU - MA)

1154 Great Plain Avenue, Needham MA

<https://aclum.org>

Tuesday, June 13 / 5pm-7pm

GOLD End of Year Celebration (YWCA Cambridge)

Cambridge City Hall, Sullivan Chamber

www.ywcacam.org

Join us in celebrating the achievements of the YWCA Cambridge Girls Only Leadership Develop (GOLD) program participants and mentors as the 2016-2017 program comes to an end!

Friday, June 16 / 9:30am-4:30pm

Redefining the Role of the Prosecutor Within the Community (ACLU - MA)

Wasserstein Hall, Harvard Law School / 1585 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge MA

<https://aclum.org>

Saturday, June 17 / 12pm-4pm

[Annual Family Festival & Open House \(Paige Academy\)](#)

Paige Academy, 26/28 Highland Ave in the Umoja Room (2nd Floor)

<http://paigeacademy.org>

We welcome perspective parents to come out and visit our school. You will have the opportunity to tour the facility, talk to current Parent's and meet our Program Directors.

Wednesday, June 21 / 5pm to 8pm

[Volunteer Night \(ACE\)](#)

2201 Washington Street, Suite 302, Boston MA

www.ace-ej.org

Thursday, June 29 / 11am-2:30pm

[36 Years of Senior Action \(Mass Senior Action Council\)](#)

108 Myrtle St, SEIU 1199 Function Hall (1st Floor), Quincy, MA 02171

www.eventbrite.com

Join Mass Senior Action as we celebrate 36 years of senior power! This is a day to recognize our social justice warriors and unite to build our power. We will be honoring our unsung heroes from each chapter and there will also be a senior talent portion of the luncheon!

Plated lunch, music, and transportation provided.

Thursday, June 29 / 5:30pm to 8pm

[Roxbury Community Forum \(ACE\)](#)

www.ace-ej.org

Guess what?

You can now designate a charity with Amazon for all your purchases instead of having to link to Amazon through a third party site like Community Works! You can now list Community Works as your designated charity at Amazon so automatically any purchase is linked with CW!

Once you sign up the only thing you have to make sure to do is change your bookmarks for Amazon to

smile.amazon.com. Although the web page is the same, Amazon.com purchases will not link to CW.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mary, Catherine, Meredith, Betsy and Koko.

Community Works

14 Beacon Street, Suite 719
Boston, MA 02108